

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

1301435504 HA - 143

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC Hall's Rich Neck

AND/OR COMMON

Coolbranch Farm (Webster-Close BRICK house)

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

Coolbranch Road

CITY, TOWN

Churchville

VICINITY OF

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

First

STATE

Maryland

COUNTY

Harford

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☒ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☒ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH

PUBLIC ACQUISITION

☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☒ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☐ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☒ AGRICULTURE
☐ COMMERCIAL
☐ EDUCATIONAL
☐ ENTERTAINMENT
☐ GOVERNMENT
☐ INDUSTRIAL
☐ MILITARY
☐ MUSEUM
☐ PARK
☒ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ OTHER:

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Stevenson Williams Close and Richard H. Webster Telephone #: 836-2295

STREET & NUMBER

Coolbranch Road

CITY, TOWN

Churchville

VICINITY OF

STATE Maryland zip code 21028

5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION

COURTHOUSE,
REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Harford County Court House

Liber #: HDC 968
Folio #: 985

STREET & NUMBER

40 S. Main Street

CITY, TOWN

Bel Air

STATE Maryland

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

DATE

FEDERAL STATE COUNTY LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

NA-143

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED	INSIDE	

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

This stone house is located at the end of a long lane off Coolbranch Road in Churchville. The 2 story house faces south and is 3 bays by one. It has two frame additions. The gable flank roof is asphalt covered. It has box cornices. One corbeled brick chimney is located at the center of the main structure on the north side of the roof. The principle entrance is in the center bay on the south side. The door is inset and is wood plank held together with pegged girts and braces. Windows are 6 lights over six granite lintels. A 3 bay, screened in porch built onto a concrete base is located on the south side. It is one story high and has a shed roof. The west gable end bears a date stone of above the attic window. Between the second story window and the first story window, there is an ornate, cast iron door. Its use is not known but the owner mentioned that a pipe inside the house had been hooked up with it. The door opens to the outside.

A one story frame addition located to the east of the main structure is L shaped and 3 bays long. Windows in this section are 6 lights over 6.

A two story, frame addition on the south side of the main structure added a kitchen and extra bedrooms to the dwelling. This addition is fairly recent.

This house has burned twice and most of its interior features have been destroyed. A few charred beams are visible in the attic but most of the roof structure had to be replaced after the last fire. The fire place in the 1st floor of the main structure has like wise been altered.

The main structure does not have a cellar but there is a small crawl space under part of that section.

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

PERIOD

AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW

PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION		

SPECIFIC DATES

1860

BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

This stone house, situated on the tract Hall's Rich Neck, bears a datestone of 1860. This simple farm house has one unusual feature. Between the second story, window on the west gable, is an ornate, cast iron door. The present owner stated that heating pipes had been connected to this opening but this seems a strange ventilating system.

The tract, Hall's Rich Neck, was patented in 1699 by John Hall, the owner of many large tracts in Harford County, including Cranberry Hall. By 1783, the Maryland Tax List shows that Thomas Hall owned 652 acres of the original tract. In 1798, Freeborn Brown is shown as the owner of part of this tract. The presense of many buildings on the property at that time seems to indicate a fairly successful farm. Present in 1798 were a two story stone house, a granary, a brick house inhabited by his relative, William Brown, a brick kitchen, a grist mill, a saw mill and house.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Wright, C. Milton; Our Harford Heritage; 1967.

1783 Maryland Tax List

1798 Federal Tax List

1814 Tax List

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY Approximately 290 acres

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

Halls Rich Neck is bounded on the north by the property of Peter A. Jay; on the east by the property of Lawrason R. Sayre; on the west by the property of Ruth Moxley; and on the south by Cool Branch Road.

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

Susan M. Deeney, Field Historian

January 25, 1977

ORGANIZATION

Historic District Commission

DATE

838-6000 ext. 207

STREET & NUMBER

45 South Main Street

TELEPHONE

CITY OR TOWN

Bel Air

STATE

Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438

TITLE SEARCH
HA - 143 & 144

Coolbranch Farm
Stevenson W. Close and Richard H. Webster
Coolbranch Road
Churchville, Maryland 21028

HDC	968	987	3/27/75	Grantor:	Richard Henry Webster and Stevenson Williams Close
				Grantee:	Peter A. Jay
				Acreage:	103.10 acres, being the entire tract conveyed by Peter Jay to Webster and Close in 1950 and part of of a tract conveyed by North Charleston Lands Corporation to Webster and Close in 4/24/50.
HDC	968	985	3/27/75	Grantor:	Stevenson Williams Close
				Grantee:	Stevenson W. Close and Richard Henry Webster Richard H. Webster being an assign of William Webster who died on 5/17/72.
GRG	342	20	4/24/50	Grantor:	North Charleston Lands Corporation
				Grantee:	William Webster and Stevenson W. Close
				Acreage:	290.156 acres.
GRG	342	23	4/24/50	Grantor:	North Charleston Land Corporation
				Grantee:	Stevenson W. Close and William Webster
				Acreage:	Small triangular strip containing .25 acres used by North Charleston Lands Corp. and their predecessors for many years as an entrance and driveway. Edwin M. and Kate V. Caudill sold land to above named grantors.
SWC	237	319	4/24/35		
GRG	393	377	4/28/53	Grantor:	Peter and Gertrude Jay
				Grantee:	William Webster and Stevenson W. Close
				Acreage:	45.8 acres, being a portion of "Westwood". This lot was sold to Peter A. Jay in 1975. Jay's father had purchased it from Eugene and Billie Mae Todd.
GRG	388	527	2/3/53		
GRG	547	128	3/22/60	Grantor:	Chase and Ruth C. Coale
				Grantee:	William Webster and Stevenson W. Close
				Acreage:	.75 acres.
SWC	237	49	1935	Grantor:	Edwin and Kate V. Caudill
				Grantee:	Coolbranch Lands, Inc. (The North Charleston Lands Corporation having become the successor of Coolbranch Lands, Inc.)
DGW	203	113	3/29/27	Grantor:	Dr. B. Dennis Spalding and Margaret C. Spalding
				Grantee:	Edwin M. and Kate V. Caudill
				Acreage:	291 acres, 3 roods, 24 sq. perches of a tract called Hall's Rich Neck.
WSF	127	7	4/3/09	Grantor:	J. Morton McIlvain and wife
				Grantee:	B. Dennis and Margaret C. Spalding
WSF	84	382	6/27/1895	Grantor:	Bernard S. McIlvain
				Grantee:	J. Morton McIlvain
WSF	84	384		Grantor:	J. Morton and Bermard S. McIlvain
				Grantee:	Henry S. McIlvain

Coolbranch Farm
HA - 143 & 144
Continued

WSF	125	225	10/27/08	Grantor: Henry McIlvain Grantee: J. Morton McIlvain
WSF	82	401	12/17/1894	Grantor: Willard G. Rouse, trustee, estate of Jeremiah McIlvain Grantee: Bernard S. and J. Morton McIlvain
HD	28	8	1/2/1843	Grantor: William and Aurealia Sappington Grantee: Jeremiah McIlvain Acreage: Hall's Rich Neck, property "on which William Brown now resides."
HD	27	385	12/24/1842	Grantor: Otho Scott, Trustee Grantee: William Sappington
Equity Docket 351, B-20				James Wallace vs. Thomas Brown and others. Records have been lost.
SR	1	465	9/16/1828	Grantor: Last Will and Testament of Mary B. Brown Grantee: William Brown "I give and Bequeath to my son William Brown the plantation on which he now lives called Hall's Rich Neck together with a small piece of land containing about 1 acre which he has had the use of with the mill and seat..."
SR	1	355	10/28/1825	Grantor: Last Will and Testament of Freeborn Brown Grantee: Mary B. Brown, his wife.
HD	2	402	8/2/1809	Petition of Freeborn Brown: "...your petitioner is seized or possessed of part of a tract called 'Hall's Rich Neck... prays that your Honors will grant him a petition Commission to prove and perpetuate the bounds of the tract of land aforesaid..." Thomas Hall, it is stated in the petition, sold property to William Cox approximately 19 years before (1790). The land was resurveyed as a result of this petition and marked H R N R.

The 1783 Maryland Tax List shows that Thomas Hall owned 652 acres of Hall's Rich Neck, located in Susquehanna Hundred,
The 1798 Federal Tax List shows Freeborn Brown owned 671 acres in the Susquehanna Hundred.
The dwelling on this land was occupied by William Markey.

INVENTORY NO. 143

ELECTION DISTRICT _____

DATE: 10/11/76

TAX MAP NO. _____

REMODELING: Drastic, moderate, minor

PARCEL NO. _____

NAME OF PROPERTY: Coolbranch FarmLOCATION OF PROPERTY: corner of cool branch roadDIRECTION DWELLING FACES: SouthNAME OF OWNER: Stevenson Williams Close AND ~~William~~ Webster ^{Richard Harold}ADDRESS: Cool Branch Road 836-2295Churchville, Md 21028

STORIES: 1[] 2[X] 3[] 4[] 5[] 6[] BAYS:

WINGS, ADDITIONS:

yes new addition - 2 story } frame
fair addition 1 story }

WALL CONSTRUCTION:

- [] FRAME: Bevel, clapboard, weatherboard, wood shingles, board & batten(type?)
 [] BRICK: Bond type- common, English, Flemish. Sketch variants.
 [X] STONE: Bond type- rubble, ashlar (random or regular), quoins-plain, rusticated
 [] LOG coursed on front
sub uncoursed on sides

WALL FEATURES: BELT COURSE, PILASTERS, OTHERS _____

FOUNDATIONS: HIGH, LOW, BRICK, STONE _____

WATER TABLE: NONE, PLAIN, BEVELED, MOULDED BRICKWINDOWS, TRIM, SHUTTERS: 1/1[] 2/2[] 6/6[✓] 9/6[] 9/9[] other[]
 pegged[] nailed[] wide[] narrow[]
 original[] replaced[]ENTRANCE, DOORS: LOCATION: center bay

HARDWARE: original[] replaced[]

FAN LIGHT, TRANSOM, SIDE LIGHTS, PLAIN

CORNICE, BARGE, EAVES:

original[] replaced[✓]

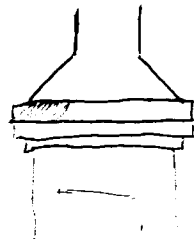
granite lintelsROOF: GABLE FRONT, GABLE FLANK, HIP, MANSARD, FLAT, DORMERSMATERIAL: wood shingles, slate, tin, asphalt original[] replaced[]

PORCHES: SHAPE OF ROOF - shed[] hip[] gable[]

CHIMNEYS: NUMBER 1 BRICK[✓] STONE[] CORBELED[✓] original[] replaced[✓]
 LOCATION: _____

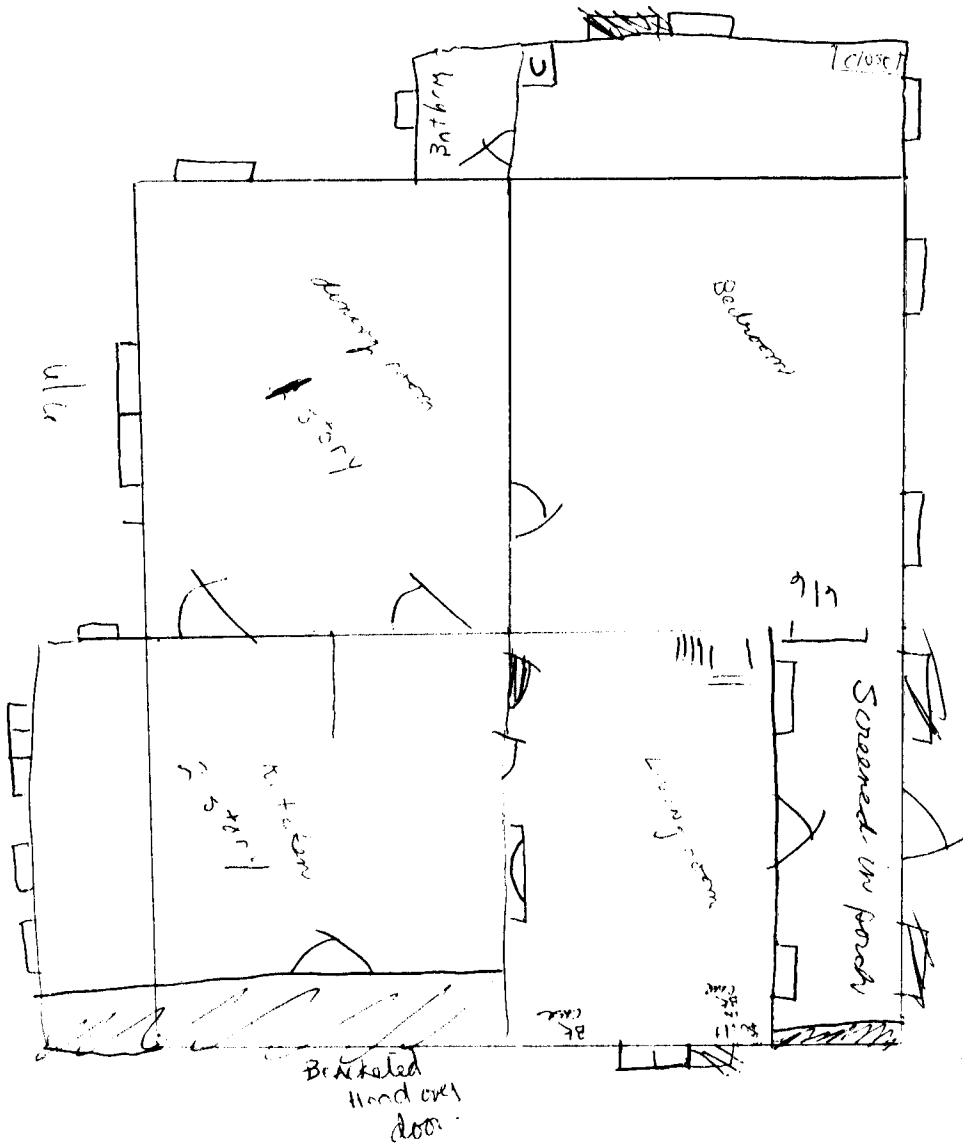
ARCHES:

COMMENTS:

Brick fire placeplastered walls

Attic
© 1850

6/6 window in each gable end HA 143



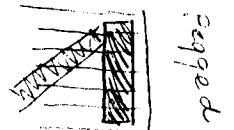
walls about
24 - 30 thick

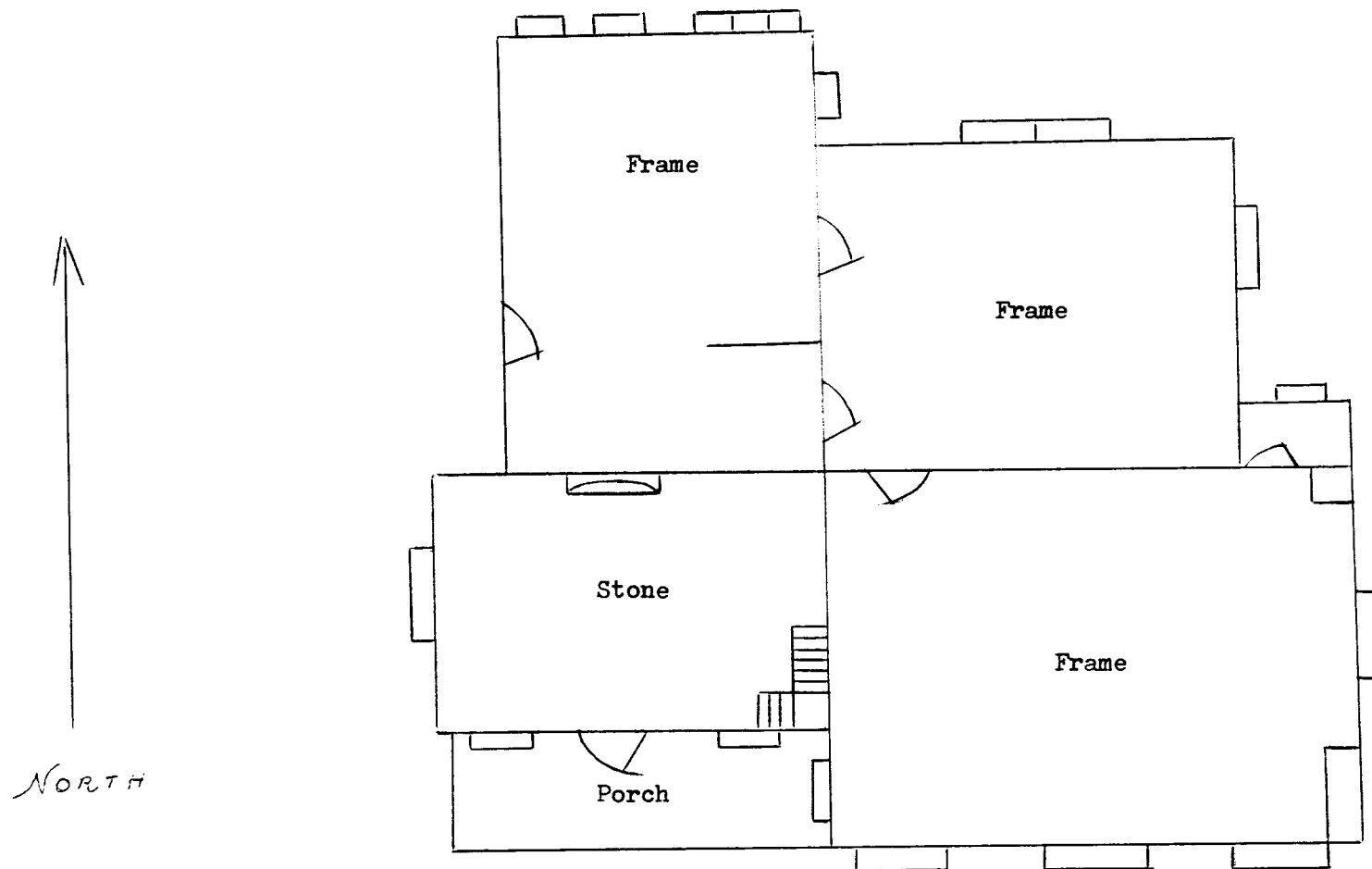
Date
of one.
1860

IRON
DRIVE
CRANIAL



on
concrete
base






HA-143

HA-143

5763 III NE
(DELTA)

76°15'
39°37'30" 

2.5 MI. TO MO 161

394000m E

395

396

12'30''

4385000m.N.

4384

4383

354

4382

438

Cool Branch

U.S. MILITARY
RESERVATION
ABERDEEN PROVING
GROUNDS

Sugar
Hill

Mountain
Hill

Noble Mill

Schoolhouse

Glenville

Green Springs



Stone House
Coolbranch Farm
Churchville, MD
Susan M. Deeney
October, 1976
Southeast

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HA-143

Unusual Iron Door-Stone House
Coolbranch Farm
Churchville, MD
Susan M. Deeney
October, 1976
West



Dec 1969 JSC

Webster. Close Stone House

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showing stove door in wall at floor level.
~~at floor level~~



HA 143

Dec 1969 JSE

Webster - Close Stone House